

UNCLASSIFIED

E/23

Page: 1

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Current Handling: n/a

Document Number: 2000LIMA04973

Channel: n/a

PTQ4784

PAGE 01 LIMA 04973 01 OF 02 222008Z
ACTION WHA-00

| | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| INFO | LOG-00 | CIAE-00 | INL-00 | DODE-00 | SRPP-00 | VC-00 | H-01 |
| | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | L-00 | AC-01 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OMB-01 |
| | PA-00 | PM-00 | PRS-00 | ACE-00 | P-00 | SP-00 | SSO-00 |
| | SS-00 | TRSE-00 | T-00 | USIE-00 | PMB-00 | DRL-02 | G-00 |
| | SAS-00 | /005W | | | | | |

-----7CAE14 222008Z /69

O 221904Z AUG 00
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6003
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USCINCSO MIAMI FL

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(D)

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 004973

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/22/05
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PINS, CO, PE
SUBJECT: FUJIMORI ANNOUNCES CRACKING OF ARMS SMUGGLING RING --
RATIFIES CONTROVERSIAL ADVISOR MONTESINOS

1. (U) CLASSIFIED [REDACTED] BY AMBASSADOR JOHN R. HAMILTON,

PAGE 02 LIMA 04973 01 OF 02 222008Z
REASON 1.5B AND 1.5D.

2. (C) SUMMARY: PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI USED A PRESS
CONFERENCE ANNOUNCING THE DISMANTLING OF AN ARMS SMUGGLING RING
TO UNDERSCORE HIS SUPPORT FOR DE FACTO INTELLIGENCE CHIEF
VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS (WHO MADE A RARE PUBLIC APPEARANCE) AND TO
SNIPE AT U.S. POLICY IN THE REGION. THE PRESS CONFERENCE
COINCIDED WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE OAS-SPONSORED TALKS IN WHICH
RESTRUCTURING OF THE PERUVIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES FIGURES
PROMINENTLY. END SUMMARY.

10K RIFLES AIR-DROPPED TO FARC
=====

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON
DATE/CASE ID: 28 SEP 2001 200004441

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 2

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 2000LIMA04973

Channel: n/a

3. (C) ON AUGUST 21, PRESIDENT ALBERTO FUJIMORI ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOP HAD CRACKED A CRIMINAL RING WHICH SINCE 1999 HAD SMUGGLED APPROXIMATELY 10,000 AK-47 RIFLES TO REBEL FORCES IN COLOMBIA. SIX INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN DETAINED, INCLUDING TWO FORMER MEMBERS OF THE PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES, WHO HAD MASQUERADED AS AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR THE PERUVIAN MILITARY. THE WEAPONS ORIGINATED IN JORDAN AND WERE TRANSPORTED BY A RUSSIAN CARGO PLANE VIA THE CANARY ISLANDS AND GUYANA. THE PLANE PROCEEDED TO PERU AND AIR-DROPPED THE WEAPONS FOR THE FARC AT A DESIGNATED POINT WHILE OVER-FLYING COLOMBIA.

B1

4. (U) FUJIMORI TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE BOTH TO UNDERScore HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT OF CONTROVERSIAL PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR AND DE FACTO CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SIN) VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS AND TO SNIPE AT U.S. POLICY TOWARD PERU. MONTESINOS, ALONG WITH THE MINISTERS OF INTERIOR AND [REDACTED]

PAGE 03 LIMA 04973 01 OF 02 222008Z
DEFENSE AND THE TITULAR HEAD OF THE SIN, ACCOMPANIED FUJIMORI IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE. FUJIMORI NOT ONLY CREDITED MONTESINOS WITH THE OPERATION'S SUCCESS, BUT HAD HIM ANSWER SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT OPERATIONAL DETAILS AND DEFENDED HIM FROM POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING PRESS QUESTIONS. IN PARTICULAR, FUJIMORI EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF MONTESINOS' WORK IN DEFENDING PERUVIAN NATIONAL INTERESTS.

5. (U) FUJIMORI WENT ON TO LAUD MONTESINOS, DECLARING THAT HE HAD CARRIED OUT AN EXTRAORDINARY WORK THAT HAD RESULTED IN A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING THAT EVEN THE USG HAD RECOGNIZED. FUJIMORI ADDED THAT MONTESINOS' WORK WAS TYPIFIED BY CONCRETE SUCCESSES, AS OPPOSED TO THE UNSUBSTANTIATED QUALITY OF THE ACCUSATIONS LAUNCHED AGAINST HIM. WHEN ASKED IF HE PLANNED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW POSITION FOR MONTESINOS, FUJIMORI RESPONDED HE HAD NO ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT REMINDED JOURNALISTS OF HIS PREVIOUS STATEMENT THAT MONTESINOS WOULD BE ASSUMING A MORE PUBLIC ROLE, AS HE WAS NOW. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MONTESINOS WAS NOT INDISPENSABLE, FUJIMORI INSISTED THAT HE HAD EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION VITAL TO NATIONAL SECURITY, PLAINLY IMPLYING THAT MONTESINOS WOULD BE KEEPING HIS JOB FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

6. (U) ASKED ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE REGION, FUJIMORI SUGGESTED IT WAS "ODD" THAT ALBRIGHT HAD NEGLECTED TO VISIT PERU, "AS IF IT WERE NOT DEFENDING DEMOCRACY," AND "TREATING PERU LIKE AN ISLAND." PERU, FUJIMORI INDICATED, WAS MAKING NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL SECURITY AND DEMOCRACY BY MOVING AGAINST ARMS SMUGGLERS.

Page: 2

Current Class: [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 2000LIMA04973

Page: 3
Channel: n/a

7. (U) FUJIMORI REITERATED THE GOP'S COMMITMENT TO THE WAR ON
[REDACTED]

PAGE 04 LIMA 04973 01 OF 02 222008Z
DRUGS. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN, HOWEVER, THAT THE \$1.3 BILLION
PLAN COLOMBIA, WHICH HE "SUPPOSED" INVOLVED SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY
ASSISTANCE TO THE COLOMBIAN ARMED FORCES, COUPLED WITH THE ARMS
BEING SMUGGLED TO THE REBELS, WOULD RESULT IN AN ESCALATION AND
PROLONGATION OF ARMED CONFLICT THAT COULD EASILY SPILL INTO
NEIGHBORING STATES. FUJIMORI ASSERTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS
TAKING MEASURES TO STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING AND THAT MONTESINOS
WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS EFFORT.

COMMENT
=====

8. (C) THIS PRESS CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE TWO HOURS BEFORE THE
FORMAL COMMENCEMENT OF THE OAS-SPONSORED DEMOCRATIZATION TALKS,
WHICH HAVE AS ONE OF THEIR MAIN POINTS THE REORGANIZATION OF THE
INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AND, BY EXTENSION, THE ROLE OF MONTESINOS.
ALTHOUGH IT WAS THE ARRESTS OF THE SUSPECTS (PARTICULARLY THE
RUSSIAN) AND SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE THAT TRIGGERED
THE PRESS CONFERENCE, ITS TIMING WAS HARDLY COINCIDENTAL. WE
FIND IT HARD TO DISAGREE WITH COMMENTATORS HERE WHO HAVE ALREADY
NOTED THAT, IF FUJIMORI HAD EVER CONSIDERED REMOVING MONTESINOS,
HE NOW HAS NO INTENTION OF DOING SO.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] PTQ4786

PAGE 01 LIMA 04973 02 OF 02 222008Z
ACTION WHA-00

| | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| INFO | LOG-00 | CIAE-00 | INL-00 | DODE-00 | SRPP-00 | VC-00 | H-01 |
| | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | L-00 | AC-01 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OMB-01 |
| | PA-00 | PM-00 | PRS-00 | ACE-00 | P-00 | SP-00 | SSO-00 |
| | SS-00 | TRSE-00 | T-00 | USIE-00 | PMB-00 | DRL-02 | G-00 |
| | SAS-00 | /005W | | | | | |

-----7CAE1E 222008Z /69

O 221904Z AUG 00
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6004
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 2000LIMA04973

Page: 4
Channel: n/a

AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USCINCSO MIAMI FL

[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 02 LIMA 004973

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/22/05
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PINS, CO, PE
SUBJECT: FUJIMORI ANNOUNCES CRACKING OF ARMS SMUGGLING RING --
RATIFIES CONTROVERSIAL ADVISOR MONTESINOS

[REDACTED]
PAGE 02 LIMA 04973 02 OF 02 222008Z
9. (C) FUJIMORI'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S TRIP ALSO MAKE
IT CLEAR THAT OUR "NOT-BUSINESS-AS-USUAL" MESSAGE HAS NOT GONE
UNNOTICED. IN ALL THE AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATIONS WITH GOP
OFFICIALS, HE IS MAKING IT CLEAR THAT THE ONLY WAY BACK TO A
NORMAL RELATIONSHIP IS THROUGH DEMOCRATIZATION.

HAMILTON
[REDACTED]

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 4

UNCLASSIFIED